GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3726
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2005
PLAN TO TACKLE FLU OUT BREAK
Chitthan Shri N.S.V.

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to curtail the potential of flu outbreak and directed the pharmaceutical industry to make efforts in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the guidelines issued in this regard;

(c) whether guidelines of the Government are not clear;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the pharmaceutical industry has submitted any representation to ciarify the stand of the Government; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS & MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a)to(f) : The most effective way to control the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza is to contain it at the source ie. at the bird or animal stage.The foliowing steps are identified for preventive action;

a) proper surveillance

b) early detection

c) immediate stamping out ie i) culling of birds in 3 km radius of any detected case

ii) vaccination of poultry between 3-10kms radius;

iii) containment of movement of poultry and humans in and beyond 3 krns

d) Treatment of immediate contacts and persons involved in containment operations with .anti-viral drugs.The Government of India has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Task Force for this purpose and the Task Force is coordinating the efforts made by various Government Departments to tackle the problem. The Government on various occasions has discussed the issue of availability of medicines for treating Avian Flu and other related issues with the Pharmaceutical companies.